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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Y. NAGAI et al.

Serial No.: 09/290,251

Filed: April 13, 1999

For: REPRODUCTION APPARATUS AND REPRODUCTION
METHOD OF DIGITAL VIDEO SIGNAL OR AUDIO
SIGNAL

Art Unit: 2165

Examiner: N. Rosen

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SUBMISSION OF REPLACEMENT FORM PTO-1449
AND REQUEST FOR COPY OF REPLACEMENT FORM PTO-1449
WITH ALL LISTED REFERENCES INITIALED BY EXAMINER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 5, 2002

Sir:

The Advisory Action of May 14, 2002, in connection with the above-identified application is acknowledged.

The Advisory Action of May 14, 2002, includes a copy of the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement of April 29, 2002, marked by the Examiner to indicate that all of the listed references except the Nikkei Electronics reference have been considered. The Examiner marked out the listing of the Nikkei Electronics reference on the form PTO-1449.

The Advisory Action of May 14, 2002, also includes a copy of the replacement form PTO-1449 submitted with the Supplement to Information Disclosure Statement of April 30, 2002, marked by the Examiner to indicate that all of the listed references

except the Nikkei Electronics reference have been considered. The Examiner marked out the listing of the Nikkei Electronics reference on the form PTO-1449.

The Examiner did not explain why he marked out the listing of the Nikkei Electronics reference on the two forms PTO-1449 in the Advisory Action of May 14, 2002.

As explained on page 3 of the Information Disclosure Statement of April 29, 2002, a copy of the Nikkei Electronics reference was submitted on April 13, 1999, when the application was filed, together with a sheet entitled "Information under 37 CFR 1.56(a)" listing this reference, and a copy of this sheet signed by the Examiner to indicate that this reference has been considered was attached to the Office Action of November 26, 1999.

However, sometimes the PTO does not list references listed on sheets entitled "Information under 37 CFR 1.56(a)" in the "References Cited" section of patents. Accordingly, to ensure that the Nikkei Electronics reference is listed in the "References Cited" section of any patent issuing from the present application, the Nikkei Electronics reference was listed on the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement of April 29, 2002.

Also, as discussed on page 1 of the Supplement to Information Disclosure Statement of April 30, 2002, the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Supplement to Information Disclosure Statement of April 30, 2002, replaces the original form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure

Statement of April 29, 2002. The replacement form PTO-1449 is identical to the original form PTO-1449 except that the replacement form PTO-1449 indicates that the Nikkei Electronics reference is in the Japanese language, and lists the ISBN number of the International Standard IEC 60958-3 reference.

However, since the Examiner has initialed all of the references listed on both the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement of April 29, 2002, and the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Supplement to Information Disclosure Statement of April 30, 2002, except for the Nikkei Electronics reference, there is the possibility that all of the references listed on the two forms PTO-1449 except for the Nikkei Electronics reference will be listed twice in the "References Cited" section of any patent issuing from the present application, and that the Nikkei Electronics reference will not be listed at all in such a "References Cited" section.

In order to prevent this from happening, attached hereto is a replacement form PTO-1449 which is identical to the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Supplement to Information Disclosure Statement of April 30, 2002, and which replaces the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement of April 29, 2002, and the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Supplement to Information Disclosure Statement of April 30, 2002.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner

(1) draw a line through the listing of the Nikkei Electronics reference on the sheet entitled "Information under 37 CFR 1.56(a)" and provide a copy of this sheet so marked with the next Office communication,


(2) draw lines through the listings of all of the references listed on the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement of April 29, 2002, and provide a copy of this form PTO-1449 so marked with the next Office communication,

(3) draw lines through the listings of all of the references listed on the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Supplement to Information Disclosure Statement of April 30, 2002, and provide a copy of this form PTO-1449 so marked with the next Office communication, and

(4) initial all of the references listed on the replacement form PTO-1449 attached hereto and provide a copy of this replacement form PTO-1449 so initialed with the next Office communication.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment